

Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

Issue: April 2013

Mars Science News

New MEPAG Chair

Dr. Lisa Pratt, Provost Professor and Chair, Department of Geological Sciences, Indiana University, is the new MEPAG Chair. She takes over from Dave Des Marais who, as outgoing chair, will continue to support MEPAG as a member of its Executive Committee-- when his MSL duties permit. Our thanks to Dave who extended his tenure as chair to cover last year's period of rapid change in the Mars program. This week, Lisa will be making the MEPAG presentation to the Planetary Sciences Subcommittee meeting. Welcome, Lisa!

Possible Virtual MEPAG Meeting July 23

Looking ahead, MEPAG is working to hold a second electronic meeting this year on July 23 to hear the final report of the 2020 Mars rover Science Definition Team and the status of the Federal/NASA budget situation. Please mark that date for a possible meeting 11 a.m. EDT to 3 p.m. EDT (8 a.m. to noon PDT), again using virtual media. Future notices will give details of the meeting.

Postponement of the 8th International Mars Conference til 2014

The 8th International Mars Conference scheduled for July 15-19, 2013, has been postponed one year due to impacts of sequestration on the Federal budget, including limitations on attendance by Federal agency center personnel. We will work with NASA over the coming year so that we can have a full conference in June/July 2014.

Hope to see you there.

Dan McCleese / Dave Beaty / Rich Zurek
8th International Mars Conference Conveners

Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
4/12	10th IAA Low-Cost Planetary Missions Conference abstracts deadline
4/12	2013 Goldschmidt Conference abstracts deadline
5/31	Planet Mars 4 Workshop registration deadline
5/31	First COSPAR Symposium... abstracts deadline
6/15	LunGradCon 2013 registration deadline

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>Second Quarter, 2013</i>		
	April 3-6, 2013 Gainesville, FL, USA	From Stars to Life Conference First announcement http://conference.astro.ufl.edu/STARSTOLIFE/
	April 4-5, 2013 Washington, DC, USA	NASA Planetary Science Subcommittee Meeting NASA Headquarters (can be joined online) http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-03-11/html/2013-05486.htm
	April 7-12, 2013 Vienna, AUSTRIA	European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2013 Session PS2.4: Mars Science and Exploration. This session will address the latest results on the interior, surface, atmosphere and ionosphere of Mars from recent and ongoing Mars missions, in addition to future goals and experiments. http://www.equ2013.eu/
	April 15, 2013 Laurel, MD, USA	Characterizing Luna Incognita (can be joined online 9:00 a.m. PDT; 12:00 noon EDT; 16:00 UTC) http://connect.arc.nasa.gov/nlsi_directors_seminar/
	April 17-19, 2013 Edinburgh, SCOTLAND	UK Astrobiology Conference http://www.astrobiology.ac.uk/astrobiology-conference-2013
	April 23-25, 2013 Monrovia, CA, USA	SPICE Class Contact Chuck Acton at Charles.H.Acton@jpl.nasa.gov http://naif.jpl.nasa.gov/naif/announcements_SPICE-2013
	Cancelled April 29-May 2, 2013 Baltimore, MD, USA	Habitable Worlds Across Time and Space http://www.stsci.edu/institute/conference/habitable-worlds/
	April 30-May 1, 2013 San Antonio, TX, USA	19th Annual Improving Space Operations Workshop https://info.aiaa.org/tac/SMG/SOSTC/Workshop%20Documents/2013/SOSTC2013Workshop.pdf
	May 6-8, 2013 Washington, DC, USA	Humans to Mars Summit (H2M) Lisner Auditorium at George Washington University http://h2m.exploremars.org
	May 8, 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	2001 Mars Odyssey PSG Meeting Jet Propulsion Laboratory

	May 28-29, 2013 Ithaca, NY, USA	iCubeSat 2013 – The 2nd Interplanetary CubeSat Workshop Register today, submit abstracts today http://iCubeSat.org
	Update June 3-5, 2013 Darmstadt, GERMANY	Mars Express 10th Anniversary Celebration and Science Working Team Meeting To be held at ESOC
	June 10-14, 2013 Montreal, CANADA	AbGradCon 2013 An interdisciplinary conference organized by and for graduate students and early career scientists. http://www.abgradcon.org
	June 10-14, 2013 Catania, ITALY	International Venus Science Conference Will include all aspects of Venus research http://www.iaps.inaf.it/Venus2013/
	June 11-14, 2013 Hoor, SWEDEN	Isotopes as Diagnostic Tools in Astronomy, Geology and Biology http://www.nordicastrobiology.net/Isotopes2013/
	June 17-21, 2013 San Jose, CA, USA	10th International Planetary Probe Workshop (IPPW10) Short Course: Entry, Descent, and Landing Systems – June 15-16, 2013 http://www.ippw10.com/
	June 18-20, 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	10th IAA Low-Cost Planetary Missions Conference (LCPM-10) at California Institute of Technology (Caltech). Abstracts deadline April 12, 2013 http://lcpm10.caltech.edu
	June 24-28, 2013 Annapolis, MD, USA	AGU Chapman Conference – Crossing Boundaries in Planetary Atmospheres: From Earth to Exoplanets http://chapman.agu.org/planetaryatmospheres
<i>Third Quarter, 2013</i>		
	July 1-4, 2013 Shanghai, CHINA	International Symposium on Planetary Science (IAPS2013) http://202.127.29.4/meetings/iaps2013
	July 7-12, 2013 Cologne, GERMANY	19th IAA Humans in Space Symposium http://http://www.his2013.com/
	July 7-14, 2013 Davos, SWITZERLAND	Davos Atmosphere and Cryosphere Assembly (DACA-13) http://www.daca-13.org
	July 9-11, 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	9th Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group http://www.lpi.usra.edu/sbag/meetings/
	July 13-14, 2013 Moffett Field, CA, USA	4th Annual Lunar Graduate Conference (LunGradCon 2013) Registration deadline June 15, 2013 http://lasp.colorado.edu/ccldas/lqc2013
	July 16-18, 2013 Moffett Field, CA, USA	NASA Lunar Science Forum http://lunarscience.nasa.gov/2013
	July 22-25, 2013 Szczecin, POLAND	13th European Workshop on Astrobiology http://www.astrobiologia.pl.eana/
	July 29-August 2, 2013 Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA	76th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society http://www.metsoc2013edmonton.org
	July 29-August 2, 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	25th Annual NASA Planetary Science Summer School Now accepting applications for session one http://pscischool.jpl.nasa.gov

	August 5-8, 2013 Sudbury, Ontario, CANADA	Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution V Conference Abstracts deadline May 23, 2013 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/sudbury2013/
	August 12-16, 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	25th Annual NASA Planetary Science Summer School Now accepting applications for session two http://pscischool.jpl.nasa.gov
	August 15-18, 2013 Boulder, CO, USA	2013 International Mars Society Convention Convened by the Mars Society space advocacy group. Hear from dozens of key scientists, experts and policymakers about Mars exploration, including updates on NASA's Curiosity rover and MAVEN spacecraft, scheduled for launch this November, as well as planning for a humans-to-Mars mission. http://www.marssociety.org/
	August 16-25, 2013 Kuressaare, ESTONIA	Summer Course: "Impacts and their Role in the Evolution of Life" http://www.nordicastrobiology.net/Impacts2013/
	August 25-30, 2013 Florence, ITALY	2013 Goldschmidt Conference Session 026: "Martian Evolution; Ancient Messengers and Modern Measurements" Abstracts deadline April 12, 2013 http://goldschmidt.info/2013/index
	August 27-31, 2013 Paris, FRANCE	IAG/AIG International Conference on Geomorphology http://www.geomorphology-iag-paris2013.com/en
	September 9-13, 2013 London, UK	European Planetary Science Conference (EPSC 2013) http://www.epsc2013.eu
	September 23-24, 2013 London, UK	Origin of the Moon http://royalsociety.org/events/2013/origin-moon/
	September 24-28, 2013 Medellin, COLOMBIA	2nd International Congress of Astrobiology in Columbia http://www.astrobiologia.org/2-congreso-internacional-de-astrobiologia.html
	September 25-26, 2013 Chicheley, UK	Origin of the Moon – Challenges and Prospects http://royalsociety.org/events/2013/moon-origin-satellite/
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2013</i>		
	October 3-4, 2013 Houston, TX, USA	International Scientific Workshop on Golden Spike Human Lunar Expeditions http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/gs2013/
	October 6-11, 2013 Denver, CO, USA	45th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS 2013) http://aas.org/meetings/45th-meeting-division-planetary-sciences
	October 14-16, 2013 Laurel, MD, USA	Lunar Exploration Analysis Group Meeting http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/leag2013/
	October 20-25, 2013 Les Houches, FRANCE	Planet Mars 4 Workshop http://www.sciops.esa.int/mars4
	October 27-30, 2013 Denver, CO, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting

	November 11-15, 2013 Bangkok, THAILAND	First COSPAR Symposium on "Planetary Systems of Our Sun and Other Stars, and the Future of Space Astronomy" Abstracts deadline May 31, 2013 http://www.cospar2013.gistda.or.th/
	November 18, 2013	MAVEN Launch Period Opens
	November 19-21, 2013 Washington, DC, USA	Venus Exploration Analysis Group (VEXAG) Meeting Contact Lori Glaze (lori.s.glaze@nasa.gov)
	December 9-13, 2013 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting
<i>2014</i>		
	March 2014	45th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference
	July 6-11, 2014 Nara, JAPAN	ORIGINS 2014 http://www.origin-life.gr.jp/origins2014/index.html
	August 2-10, 2014 Moscow, RUSSIA	40th COSPAR 2014 and Associated Events http://www.cospar-assembly.org/
	September 22, 2014	MAVEN Mars Orbit Insertion (MOI)
	October 19-22, 2014 Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
	November 9-14, 2014 Tucson, AZ, USA	46th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society Division of Planetary Sciences (DPS 2014) http://dps.aas.org/meetings
	December 15-19, 2014 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting
<i>2015</i>		
	March 2015	46th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference
	November 1-4, 2015 Baltimore, MD, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
<i>2016</i>		
	March 8, 2016	20-Day InSight Launch Window Opens
	September 20, 2016	InSight Arrival at Mars

Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings:

Good Friday	3/29/2013	4/18/2014	4/3/2015	4/6/2016	4/14/2017
Rosh Hashanah	9/5/2013	9/25/2014	9/14/2015	9/16/2016	9/20/2017
Yom Kippur	9/14/2013	10/4/2014	9/23/2015	9/25/2016	9/29/2017
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/28/2013	11/27/2014	11/26/2015	11/22/2016	11/23/2017
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/14/2013	10/13/2014	10/12/2015	10/8/2016	10/9/2017
Christmas Day	12/25/2013	12/25/2014	12/25/2015	12/25/2016	12/25/2017

EDITORS

Joyce Pulliam	Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov	818-393-0444
Charles Budney	Charles.J.Budney@jpl.nasa.gov	818-354-3981
David Beaty	David.Beaty@jpl.nasa.gov	818-354-7968

Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's email to Joyce Pulliam, Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov, 818-393-0444.

All announcements listed in this newsletter will be posted on the MEPAG website, available at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>.